

well. I think it could be much higher than it currently is. I think the possibility for that figure of roughly \$3.5 million to grow is very likely there, that it is not just merely an issue of the total that's listed in the pink sheet that we've come to know and love as the fiscal note, but that it is very likely a higher figure, that both sides of that fear exist, not fear that the fiscal note is accurate, but fear that it's not accurate, not accurate because it means my bill won't pass and it's much lower, but also not accurate because it is much higher and my bill won't pass. In other words my bill that we're not dealing with, mine that has a fiscal impact of about 600,000 or 400,000 or whatever the dollar figure might be, and if this one passes ahead of it then it is going to prevent my proposal from being addressed because then at that point in time there won't be enough money left in the till to pay for all the bills that are out there. And the question has to be, before you get to that, as Senator Beutler has rightly framed it, is where do you want your tax policy to be. And we're walking in here with LB 106, and I know Senator Dierks brings it in a very straightforward manner. I don't discount him one wit for that. I appreciate the way he deals with issues on the floor. But the question clearly has to be asked and has to be answered by each of us. How far do you erode the sales tax base? We bring in bills, each and every one of us, that deal with sales tax exemptions from time to time, most of us, not all of us I guess. And we make our case to the Revenue Committee and we say, hey look, here's an issue that we deem or our constituents deem that we're carrying on their behalf to be good tax policy, we want to be exempt from sales tax as well. Well the committee shifts through those things and sometimes they send out bills and sometimes they don't. When they get to the floor, we decide whether or not we think that that sales tax exemption is justified, and that's what this motion allows for us to do, decide whether or not it's going to basically be something that this committee as a whole, this legislative body addresses. I would argue that we should not, that we should vote to indefinitely postpone the measure. That it's got a fiscal impact that is great to some degree or another. If you're looking at anything...if you cut it in half, you're still looking at roughly about \$1.75 million, and that's still a lot of money in terms of our overall budget and the hole that we're going to puncture in it with the passage of this measure. As Senator Beutler pointed out, the blue book that we took home and studied and that the Pages write in, I'm sure, when they do their essay exams, and I love those blue books, the budget that